

U of A student group suspended pending investigation

Folio Staff

Following allegations that surfaced in the Oct. 21 edition of the U of A student newspaper, *The Gateway*, regarding student behaviour involving the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, U of A Dean of Students Frank Robinson announced Oct. 28 that the registration of the DKE as a student group is suspended until further notice.

The dean of students took the action under the Code of Student Behaviour, which empowers the dean to immediately suspend a student group if the dean reasonably believes that the group's activities have endangered or would potentially endanger or threaten the health, safety or well-being of students and/or violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

An investigation under the code by University of Alberta Protective Services into the allegations against DKE is ongoing.

"The safety and well-being of our students at the U of A is our utmost priority, and we take these allegations very seriously," said Robinson. "We have a comprehensive Code of Student Behaviour in place that clearly lays out expectations for our students and student groups, and provides the university with the ability to deal with situations when they arise."

"There is no place at the U of A for any behaviour that endangers or potentially endangers or threatens the health, safety or well-being of our students."

Anyone with information regarding this matter is encouraged to bring it forward to Protective Services or the Office of the Dean of Students. Any student that may be affected by these activities is encouraged to access the full suite of confidential student services available at the university. ■



The Oct. 27 Give to the Goat United Way fundraiser organized by students in the Faculty of Education raised \$400 for the cause.

The U of A makes the sustainability grade

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has been named one of the most sustainable universities in North America on a scorecard designed to compare and help improve sustainability practices across 322 Canadian and American institutions of higher education.

The College Sustainability Report Card, put out by the Cambridge University-based Sustainable Endowments Institute, named the U of A a "Campus Sustainability Leader" for achieving an average grade of "A-" or better across the report's six campus sustainability categories.

"We think there are a lot of positive things going on here," said Trina Innes, director of the Office of Sustainability. "But sustainability is about continually looking at the way we do things and finding ways to do it better."

Of the six sustainability categories, the U of A received "A" grades in the areas of student involvement, transportation and green building, and B grades in climate change and energy.

food and recycling and administration.

The U of A scored a full letter grade higher over the last report in the "Green Building" category, thanks in part to five new projects—Edmonton Clinic Health Academy, Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science – Phase 2, Cooling Plant on Campus, East Campus Village and Chemical Materials Engineering—currently under construction, all of which are pursuing top designation from a number of construction certification programs. These projects are alongside the university's green-building jewel, Triffo Hall, which, among a host of innovations, utilizes rainwater capture and storage for toilets and features waterless urinals.

"It's not just new construction," said Bart Becker, U of A associate vice-president of Facilities and Operations. "We have a number of programs in

place designed to lower our energy use, which has a side benefit of lowering operating costs. You get the economic benefit and the fact that it is the right thing to do all at the same time."

Becker said he is especially proud of the university's Energy Management Program. Now in the seventh year of the program, the university has invested almost \$21 million to upgrade existing buildings on campus in an effort to lower operating cost. The savings ultimately pay for the upgrading costs.

"New construction is easy," said Becker. "You design to a certain standard, and you know what your targets are. I'm more impressed by what we do with our existing inventory."

Going forward, Innes says the long-term prospects of retaining the "Campus Sustainability Leader" designation are good, as the full value

of the Office of Sustainability was not fully realized in the report, given that the office came to be midway through the scoring year.

During 2010–11, Innes says the Office of Sustainability will also be launching a number of initiatives designed to improve the university's sustainability.

The office has plans to launch a sustainability representatives program, where each faculty and department would have the opportunity to run a sustainability campaign in their area. Innes says the campus can also expect the creation of a Sustainability Advisory Committee, green purchasing principles, and a new campus commitment program, where 20 actions will be promoted as new sustainable behaviours.

Facilities and Operations also has plans to complete both a sustainable food initiative and a greenhouse gas inventory and will be piloting an organic turf management program where non-chemical techniques are used for managing turf on campus.

Trina Innes

What is important to get out of this report is sustainability isn't static."

A place to stay

Lister Centre in the heart of campus



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folio

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folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate. folio is published 23 times per year.

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Antibiotic could be the key to treating heart ailments

Quinn Phillips

A researcher at the University of Alberta has discovered that treating basic heart ailments could be as simple as using a well-known antibiotic.

Richard Schulz, a professor of pediatrics and pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, and his team were looking at a specific type of cardiac injury called ischemia reperfusion injury. This happens when a patient suffers a heart attack caused by a blockage in a coronary artery. The sooner the blockage is relieved by reperfusion, or blood flow, the less overall damage the heart muscle receives and the better the recovery for the patient.

But in many types of heart disease the body's largest protein, titin, is cut into pieces inside the heart. This is dangerous because titin is a major contributor in the heart's filling and pumping action. Schulz and his team discovered that a molecule found in the heart muscle—Matrix Metalloproteinase-2, or MMP2—that is cutting titin.

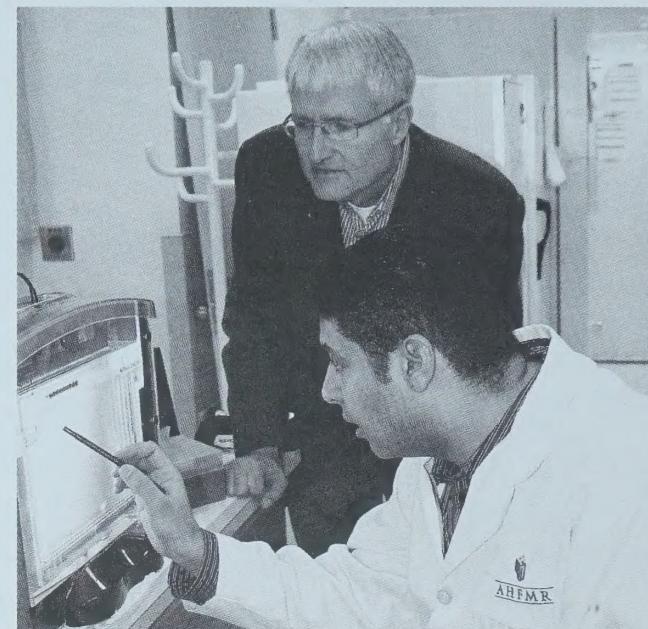
By targeting MMP2, Schulz says the occurrence of titin being cut will be significantly lessened. That targeting, or inhibiting of MMP2, can be done by using the tetracycline family of drugs.

known for their effectiveness as antibiotics and also used for acne sufferers.

"The exciting thing about this is that people have not considered using MMP inhibitors to treat very basic heart diseases," said Schulz, who added it is an inexpensive drug that should be tested as a treatment for one of Canada's top killers, cardiovascular disease.

Schulz is also thinking more broadly. Ischemia reperfusion is a type of oxidative-stress injury to the heart, whereby the body produces too many chemically reactive molecules containing oxygen, and this overwhelms the body's anti-oxidant protective systems. Excess oxidative stress is thought to be the cause of a number of heart problems. Antioxidants might reduce the risk of this dangerous process, says Schulz, but as MMP2 is activated by oxidative stress, its inhibitors could compromise more specific and effective drugs to use to treat patients with heart diseases.

"You find a kernel of where things could affect a lot of pathways to heart disease, whether it's ischemia reperfusion or heart failure or transplant rejection," said Schulz, whose work is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. "We have a feeling that this is something that could be used for a wide



(Foreground) Researcher Mohammad Ali and Rick Schulz have discovered that the MMP2 molecule is responsible for cutting an essential protein in heart tissue.

variety of heart diseases."

Schulz's team will now test MMP2 inhibitors in a number of heart disease models. The results of this study were published in the Nov. 1 edition of *Circulation*. ■

Duck deaths show need for more tailings-pond studies

Brian Murphy

News out of Fort McMurray that more ducks landed on an oilsands tailings pond in October reconfirmed a University of Alberta researcher's hunch that weather changes may be linked to the fatal incidents.

Biologist Colleen Cassady St. Clair is already deeply involved in the issue of ducks and tailings ponds going back to an initial Syncrude tragedy in 2008. Part of the \$3-million penalty Syncrude must pay for the 1,600 ducks killed two years ago will go towards St. Clair's U of A research into bird migration and the effectiveness of bird landing deterrents.

St. Clair says the ducks that landed on another Syncrude tailings pond might

have something in common with the 2008 incident.

"Immediately it came to my mind that both incidents followed a rapid change in the weather," said St. Clair. "In 2008, and again with this recent occurrence, the ducks were migrating, and there was a dramatic cold snap that was followed by a corresponding change in barometric pressure. This has never been studied in relation to duck landings in the oilsands."

St. Clair says analysis of weather changes and the probability of ducks landing en masse was already on her list of things to review with the \$1.3 million the court ordered Syncrude to pay towards her research.

Looking at the existing technology oilsands companies use to keep ducks from the tailings ponds is also part of

the U of A's research

Currently oilsands operators are using sound cannons, industrial alarms, sirens, hunting sounds and even an audio program that sends bird calls mimicking birds in distress. "I also want to investigate the use of radar to track the movement of migrating ducks," said St. Clair. "By tracking the birds when they're a long way off, the best deterrence system can be ramped up well in advance."

St. Clair says that when looking at current deterrence systems, researchers will also consider how they work with other factors such as vegetation and terrain around tailings ponds, plus the effect weather changes have on a migrating flock's behaviour.

"I'm willing to bet that there is not a single deterrent system that is best in all circumstances," said St. Clair. ■

Students call for total cellphone-use ban while driving

Jamie Hanlon

If passed, the Province of Alberta's currently proposed Bill 16 will make it unlawful to use hand-held devices such as cellphones while driving.

However, a group of students from the University of Alberta's School of Public Health are encouraging legislators to look at changing the scope of the bill to include a total ban, including hands-free cellphone usage, while driving—a move that would make Alberta the first jurisdiction to pass such a law. The students presented their evidence-based research on the issue during a press conference at the Telus Centre Nov. 3.

Challenging the myth of successful multitasking while driving, the students believe that a cellphone-while-driving ban should include all hands-free mobile phone devices. The students reported that the conversation, not the device, is the distraction for the motorist. Unlike listening to the radio or having a conversation with a passenger, the cellphone

conversation causes a condition called inattention blindness, said student spokesperson Kaitlin Robertson.

"The driver may see something on the road, but is not fully perceiving it," she said. "They can't fully react as properly as they should to a pedestrian or a car making a turn in front of them."

Citing a U of A study about driver perception and the dangers of cellphone use while operating a motor vehicle, the students identified that this study and an opinion poll conducted by the Alberta Motor Association both show that Albertans largely support legislation that regulates all wireless communication devices while driving. The challenge they note, is bending the political will to move to a total ban on cellphone use in vehicles.

Student spokesperson Isabelle Colmers noted that the students in her group met with roughly one third of the province's MLAs to present their evidence and gauge support for both the bill and a hypothetical amendment for a total ban. Suggesting that a total

ban could potentially reduce health-care costs by \$140 million annually and save countless lives, the students found that the MLAs who were surveyed supported Bill 16, but only 37 per cent said yes to a total ban on cellphone usage while driving. Surprisingly, Colmers noted, 19 per cent of those surveyed responded beyond a yes/no answer option to say that Albertans were not ready for such a move. Colmers claims that, according to their findings, Albertans are ready. And she urged the government to reconsider the bill so that it includes a total ban on cellphone usage while driving.

"This is Alberta's chance to get it right. Alberta is one of the last provinces to introduce regulation for cellphone use while driving," said Colmers. "Yet, we have the opportunity to lead other provinces, territories and states across North America by being the first to ban hands-free use. As well, we can set the standard for road safety."

"It's important for us to keep this story alive so we can keep Albertans alive." ■

Health centre announces remaining flu-shot clinics

Folio Staff

The University Health Centre, working closely with the Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Human Resource Services, will hold an influenza vaccination "blitz" for all U of A students and staff on the following dates:

- Campus Saint-Jean: Nov. 16, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Grand Salon, Pavilion Lacerte.
- Enterprise Square: Nov. 17, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Green Room, located just north of Rutherford Bookstore.

Note that the University Health Centre (2-200 SUB) is offering influenza shots onsite starting on Oct. 15.

The clinics will be open only to students and staff, not to family members, because of the set amount of vaccine the university is receiving. Public clinics run by Alberta Health Services are again open across the province and available to every Alberta resident. Any family member of staff and students can access the seasonal influenza shot that way.

Staff and students will be asked to identify themselves (e.g. ONE-card or equivalent) before receiving the vaccination, as well as provide an Alberta health-care number (or the equivalent).

To help facilitate the efficient operation of the vaccination blitz, please try to avoid either choosing to show up first thing on the first day, or leaving it to the last day. You can also help speed things up by ensuring you bring the proper documentation, as above, and if possible, by wearing short-sleeved clothing.

For information about clinics in the community and seasonal influenza, please visit www.uhc.ualberta.ca. ■

Ken Mathewson

Big step taken towards making small chips

Brian Murphy

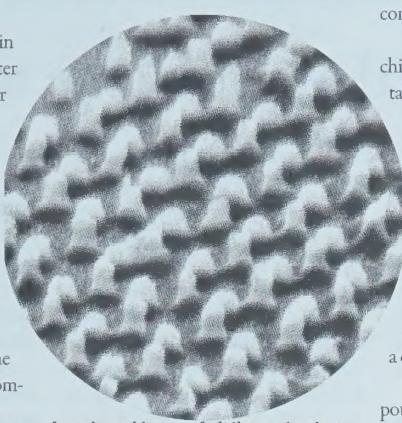
Plastic, heated in a simple microwave oven, is the technique researchers at the University of Alberta and the National Institute for Nanotechnology believe could help to re-invent the manufacture of computer chips.

Jillian Buriak, a U of A chemistry professor and NINT researcher, says in the drive to reduce the size of computer chips and speed up its production, her team achieved both goals.

"When we heat block copolymer plastics, which are two different plastics attached together, the molecules begin separating and naturally self-assemble," said Buriak. She describes the self-assembly of copolymer molecules as the same natural process in which human DNA molecules recognize one another and bind together to form complex and well-defined structures.

"In the case of heating block copolymer plastics, the molecules spontaneously line up, creating nano-sized lines that act as a template for intricate circuitry patterns that can be imprinted on silicon to make computer chips."

A computer chip with the circuitry



An enlarged image of platinum structures created by copolymer self-assembly.

To mass produce computer chips, the industry currently uses photolithography, where light carves circuit patterns on silicon chips. Ken Harris, a NINT researcher says, "the industry is now seek-

flow of civil-court proceedings. While the plain, simplified English and easy-to-follow formats may be a welcome change for some, Burgess notes that the re-numbering of the old rules may take a bit of getting used to, especially for clerks, judges and lawyers who have grown accustomed to the old way. Aside from revamping the system, other changes have been made to reflect new processes that were not even on the horizon in the 1960s, such as how to handle electronic evidence.

All Alberta lawyers have been participating in education sessions on the new rules, a project undertaken by the Legal Education Society, Burgess said, while noting that the institute has been "doing some direct education to the judges." For people representing themselves, such as in matters before a small-claims court, Burgess says they would notice a very distinct difference as well.

"The forms are different and the processes are easier to understand," she said. "It does help a self-represented individual by making the law more accessible."

Last revised in 1968, the new Rules of Court, governing the policies and procedures of the court system in the province, are the product of a project undertaken by the Faculty of Law's Alberta Law Reform Institute. The project, which took about six years to complete, was done in consultation with volunteer members of the legal community whose knowledge of the system was used to help revise the old rules. However, as the institute's Carol Burgess explains, it was not simply an updating of the old rules; it was a complete rewrite.

"There are some basic premises we used to rewrite them," she said. "We used plain language, and we tried to give them a better flow and organization."

These changes will make the rules clearer, more effective and more useful for both lawyers and laypeople to understand their meaning and follow the

imprint created by the self-assembly process developed by Buriak's research team would then go through the following production process: Tiny wires, whose widths are measured in nanometres, are hundreds of times smaller than a human hair, and can be made of conducting metals, which would be laid along the circuitry lines etched into the template.

ing out a new generation of technologies capable of continuing the miniaturization of computer chips in a cost-effective and practical manner."

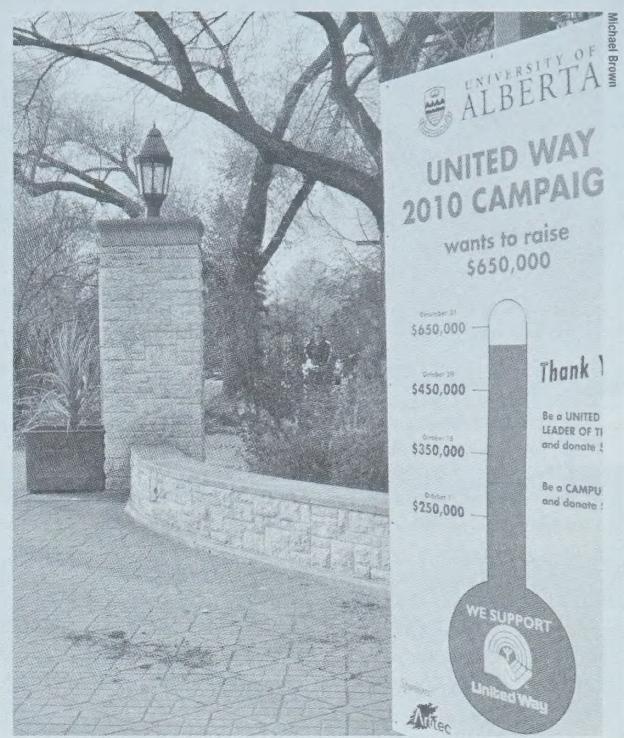
Harris says the team's heat and self-assembly technique produces denser patterns of lines on chips, which means an overall increase in the processing speed and storage capacity of next generation computers.

Another concern for the computer-chip industry is the amount of time it takes to turn out their products.

"The industry wants a manufacturing process that's cheaper than photolithography for these very small feature sizes, but fast," said Buriak. "They asked for an inexpensive self-assembly process that could work in under four minutes. With our microwave oven and copolymer plastics we produced a chip template in one minute."

The research team is talking with potential industrial partners to further develop their process. "We're very excited about the possibilities of the block copolymer self assembly technique, not just for computer chips, but also for tissue engineering, interfacing of living cells with silicon and other really intriguing applications," she said. ■

Almost there



The five-week United Way campus campaign wrapped up Oct. 22. Thus far, the university community has raised \$600,000 towards the \$650,000 campaign goal. Donations will be accepted as part of this year's target until Dec. 31.

U of A law institute has hand in revising rules for Alberta courts

Jamie Hanlon

In November, the Alberta civil court system began playing by a new set of rules with a definitive University of Alberta connection.

Last revised in 1968, the new Rules of Court, governing the policies and procedures of the court system in the province, are the product of a project undertaken by the Faculty of Law's Alberta Law Reform Institute. The project, which took about six years to complete, was done in consultation with volunteer members of the legal community whose knowledge of the system was used to help revise the old rules. However, as the institute's Carol Burgess explains, it was not simply an updating of the old rules; it was a complete rewrite.

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These changes will make the rules clearer, more effective and more useful for both lawyers and laypeople to understand their meaning and follow the

flow of civil-court proceedings. While the plain, simplified English and easy-to-follow formats may be a welcome change for some, Burgess notes that the re-numbering of the old rules may take a bit of getting used to, especially for clerks, judges and lawyers who have grown accustomed to the old way. Aside from revamping the system, other changes have been made to reflect new processes that were not even on the horizon in the 1960s, such as how to handle electronic evidence.

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"The forms are different and the processes are easier to understand," she said. "It does help a self-represented individual by making the law more accessible."

Burgess says this is the institute's largest project in its 40-year existence. In the past, the institute has been instrumental in recommending changes to provincial legislation such as Business Corporations Act, the Matrimonial Property Act, the Arbitration Act and the Civil Enforcement Act.

The Rules of Court project yielded

yet another milestone for the institute: It was the first project that required the collaborative effort of the entire staff. Burgess noted that their lawyers would normally work on their own individual projects, but given the scope and magnitude of the work undertaken, it was very much a joint effort. Ultimately, changing the Rules of

Court also had a changing impact on their team's operation as well.

"That challenged us to do things a bit differently. It changed the way we communicated with each other," said Burgess. "We had to rethink our processes and in the end we started to think 'maybe we could do the rest of our work a bit differently now.' ■

Sustainability

Finally, Innes says the university is looking into the possibility of creating an embedded sustainability certificate for students who take a certain number of courses with sustainability content.

"As we learn more from the SEI report card, and as a charter participant in the newly launched Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System, we will identify opportunities for our campus community to work together to enhance our performance," said Innes. "Success requires interaction, collaboration and engagement of

the whole institution."

The U of A's overall grade on the report moved from a "B+" in 2009 to a "B" this year. Innes says the report indicated that some grades shifted because the report parameters were adjusted to award credit based on factors beyond the mere existence of an initiative. Therefore, in the case of the U of A's showing in the report's sustainable endowment categories, a grade may have changed while the actual activity level has remained constant.

"Shareholder engagement, for example, is low at virtually every

continued from page 1

Canadian institution because of the nature of how we guide our investments, and our score reflected that this year," said Innes. "What is important to get out of this report is sustainability isn't static. The report card is a way to bring awareness to campus sustainability and help universities raise the bar every year and continue to improve and do more and more and more."

"We're always trying to learn how other universities have raised the bar, and I think we'll improve upon our performance next year." ■



Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Erin Plume, whose name was drawn as part of folio's Oct. 22 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after she correctly identified the object in the photo as the top of Athabasca Hall's front entrance. For identifying the photo in question, Plume has won a coveted Butterdome butter dish along with "The Contemporary Arab Reader on Political Islam," courtesy of the U of A Press. Addressing the key issues such as Shari'ah, human rights, civil society, secularism, globalization and ummah, and the impact of the West on the modern Arab world, this book is the perfect starting point for students and academics looking to understand "political Islam" in contemporary Arab and Muslim societies.

Up for grabs this week is another lowly Butterdome butter

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The University of Alberta thanks the following faculty, staff, retirees and students for giving of their time to serve on the 2010 University of Alberta United Way Campaign Committee

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The Edmonton Clinic Health Academy as the sun begins to set Nov. 3.

Ken Mathewson

New partnership with Chinese liberal arts college announced

Christopher Thrall

The University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose has reached a partnership agreement with a fledgling liberal arts college in China. The agreement, signed this month, establishes a framework for co-operation in teaching, research, student and faculty mobility between the campus and United International College in the city of Zhuhai.

"Throughout China, the post-secondary sector is growing exponentially," said U of A Augustana Dean Roger Epp, who visited the college in

April. "With United International College, we've found a strikingly like-minded, collaborative partner in an important country."

United International College is building a new model of higher education among its 4,000 students on the southeast coast of China. Founded in 2005 as a joint venture of Beijing Normal University and Hong Kong Baptist University, it describes its particular purpose as advancing internationalization and "taking the lead in implementing liberal arts education in China." The college curriculum stresses a philosophy of holistic education across all of its 16 degree programs, which are organized into three divisions: business and management, humanities and social science and science and technology. The language of instruction is English.

"The world is going to have to understand China, and a globally minded campus like ours has a responsibility to give students an opportunity to experience the country

and its culture," said Epp. "In some respects the college represents a soft landing, an entry-point, for a student going on exchange or for a faculty member considering a sabbatical.

"At the same time, we want United International College students and professors to shape global learning on our campus. I hope that we can each demonstrate to our respective campuses that this is a good opportunity to build faculty champions on both sides."

Augustana professors have begun meeting to consider how to take advantage of the relationship with United International College.

"While this is very much a forward-looking agreement, there is also a historic dimension to it in our centennial year," said Epp. "I couldn't help but be mindful that stepping into China was stepping into the country that formed Chester Ronning." Ronning was principal of what was then Camrose Lutheran College

from 1927 to 1942. Born in China to Norwegian parents, he returned to teach in the early 1920s and returned again in a significant diplomatic role during World War II, beginning a distinguished foreign service career. He was a long-time friend of Premier Zhou Enlai.

Augustana is the University of Alberta's undergraduate liberal-arts campus in Camrose, Alberta, with close to 1,000 students in arts, sciences, music and management degree programs. ■

University 101 will return

University 101 will return for the Nov. 22 folio with an expanded look at the roles and duties of all the University of Alberta's senior administrators.



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WolframAlpha could very well raise your IQ. And, even if it doesn't, it can show you everything you've ever wanted to know about the intelligence quotient testing process.

This site is the brainchild of Stephen Wolfram, a British physicist, software developer, mathematician and author. The goal of the "computational knowledge engine" (it generates output by doing computations from its own internal knowledge base, instead of searching the web and returning links) is to bring "expert-level knowledge to everyone." So go ahead: enter your height and weight for up-to-date health information; ask what the weather was like in Springfield, Massachusetts the day David Ortiz was born. The information is there. After all, there are "many trillion" information elements, just waiting to be mined.

www.wolframalpha.com

Festival notables

And who are those provocative thinkers, writers, artists, and scientists who, through our Festival of Ideas 2010, will join us in our ongoing search for truth?

- Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jared Diamond.
- Photographer Edward Burtynsky—whose exhibit called "Oil" is currently on display at the Art Gallery of Alberta.
- Climate scientist Tim Flannery.
- Former minister of fisheries and oceans, now environmental advocate, Tom Siddon.
- The director of the Vatican Observatory, Father José G. Funes.
- Latin American poet and Nobel-nominee Ernesto Cardenal.
- Astrophysicist Neil Comins.
- Les Jardins Chorégraphiques and Ensembles Masques Montreal.
- Rap troubadour Baba Brinkman.
- Edmonton favourite, writer Myrna Kostash.
- Governor General award winner and playwright Vern Thiessen.
- Turkish writer and Nobel Prize winner for Literature Orhan Pamuk.
- Poet and Nobel laureate Derek Walcott.
- Authors and human rights activists Mende Nazer and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, in conversation with CBC radio's host of Writers and Company Eleanor Wachtel.
- Satirist and writer David Sedaris.



teaching & learning, learning & teaching

McCalla brings magnetism for unanswered questions to the classroom

Michael Brown

You're not a farmer at heart if you don't have a healthy obsession with the weather. Growing up on a farm near the village of Innisfree, Richard Sydora's fascination with the weather extended beyond clouds and rain to curiosity about natural phenomenon that included everything from lightning bolts to the northern lights.

Today the University of Alberta theoretical physicist spends his time split between wondering about the causes of solar weather and figuring out how to get undergraduates to act on their interest in the universe's unanswered questions.

"I am trying to bring some modern research concepts into the classroom to show students that things are not always clearcut and solved," said Sydora. "Sometimes there are more things to understand, even if they are simple things, and there are actually deeper questions that can come out of the initial concept."

Getting students to understand that even the surest knowledge serves only

to unearth even more questions is at the heart of Sydora's McCalla Professorship.

Sydora, an instructor in the interdisciplinary Science 100 introductory class, says part of his McCalla Professorship will be spent turning his research on magnetic fields into a module for the classroom that shows the impact magnetism has in different areas in science.

"Seven science departments are involved in teaching this year-long course, so we try to find topics where there is significant overlap, like radioactivity, where biological processes overlap with physics and chemistry," said Sydora. "Beyond teaching the basics, I want to show the students that there are deeper questions that one can ask about certain phenomena."

Sydora says he believes if instructors can get students to question the information they are receiving early on in their academic careers, they will be better able to think more broadly.

"Students have to learn to question concepts that they are first learning and not just accept them as a matter of fact," he said. "They must try to go deeper into

the things they are learning and look across fields that can help them make a larger impact in their future work."

Sydora says that maybe one day one of his students will make an impact on his work, which, specifically involves how one can extract energy from magnetic fields embedded in ionized gases (or plasmas) and convert them into high-energy charged particles.

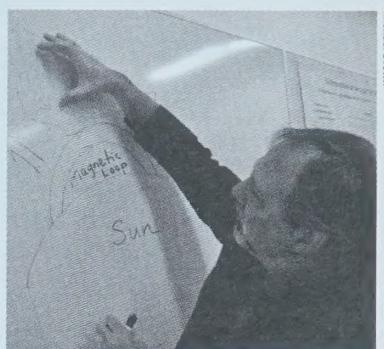
Sydora has teamed up with researchers at the Flare Lab at Bochum University in Germany in an attempt to duplicate the phenomena that creates solar flares. He says researchers know that the sun is carpeted with a series of magnetic loops that, on occasion, bulge out from the surface, twist and explosively release magnetic energy in the form of energetic plasma jets or plasmoids, which affect the Earth in the form of enhanced solar-wind disturbances.

Sydora says understanding this conversion of magnetic energy to charged-particle energy may have eventual uses in the design of particle accelerators, and down the road as an energy source.

"We know it involves some sort of

complex sequence of events at a microscopic level, but knowing exactly how those magnetic field lines basically break and rejoin and then give off all of this energy is one of the challenges we have," said Sydora.

The McCalla Professorships provide faculty members with an opportunity to implement strategies integrating their research and teaching. The awards provide funding for teaching release and research and teaching initiatives. ■



Richard Sydora demonstrates the phenomenon that creates enhanced solar-wind disturbances.

Breathing easy before bringing new inhaler to market

Nadia Anderson

How do you know if the medication you're inhaling actually makes its way to your lungs? Fascinated by nebulizers and aerosol drug delivery, Warren Finlay and his PhD student Kevin Stapleton thought long and hard about this back in the mid-1990s. The models for testing inhalers at that time were modest at best—two pipes bent together at a 90-degree angle—not the best replica for the mouth and throat.

"What existed at that time to test mouth-throat deposition was overly simplistic," says Finlay, professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Mechanical Engineering. "What we needed was a simple, but more realistic model that could test inhalers at various flow rates, tracking what particles actually make their way into the lungs."

The duo decided to review CT scans of the mouth and throat, and spent many hours diving into anatomy texts. After a couple of years the first drawings of the model led to the development of prototypes. At first they made the mouth and throat replica out of



wood, next fiberglass, then plastic, and finally with metal. Finlay worked with many students doing measurements to improve the models over the ensuing years, including another PhD student Yu Zhang, who helped develop an even simpler model.

"It took years of refining and testing the models to prove we had a satisfactory design that could be made from metal, as we needed it to undergo multiple cleanings to remove the drug residue, while still maintaining the quality of the model," says Finlay.

When it came to the commercialization of the "Physical Mouth Throat Model," Finlay connected with TEC Edmonton, the exclusive technology transfer agent for the U of A. Through consultation it was decided that patenting the model was not the best strategy; rather, the drawings of the model—the computer-aided design files—should be protected.

"Each discovery reported to TEC Edmonton requires an assessment—what is the intellectual property and its commercialization potential [and] how should we best protect the intellectual property," says Darrell Petras, technology transfer manager and entrepreneur-in-

residence with TEC Edmonton. "The strategy we proceed with is customized and, in this case, copyright was the solution."

After presenting aspects of the idealized Physical Mouth Throat Model in publications and conferences over the years, Finlay got a call from Copley Scientific Limited, a supplier of pharmaceutical test instrumentation in the United Kingdom, and a deal was signed for Copley Scientific to have the exclusive access to the drawings.

Copley Scientific is the world's leading supplier of cascade impactors, precision instruments that are used to determine the particle size of the cloud produced, hence the efficacy and safety of pharmaceutical inhalers such as those used in the treatment of asthma.

The next step for Finlay's team is to develop a pediatric application, as well as an adult application in treatment of lung cancer and cystic fibrosis.

"I'm intrigued by the cultural divide between researchers and business," says Finlay. "Trade secrets, profits—it's a different world but when you develop something that has a greater impact, then it makes the differences between the two sides easier to swallow, or in this case, inhale." ■

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Phosphorus identified as the missing ingredient to life

Brian Murphy

A University of Alberta geomicrobiologist and his PhD student are part of a research team that has identified phosphorus as the mystery ingredient that pushed oxygen levels in the oceans high enough to establish the first animals on Earth.

The U of A's Kurt Konhauser, student Stefan Lalonde and others re-examined established theories about the oxidation of the oceans in the wake of the last great glacier to encircle the planet.

Konhauser used one of his 2007 research papers, published in the journal *Science*, to focus the research team's work on the mineral content within bands of iron found in rock layers of ancient seabeds.

"Theories published before 2007 said phosphorus was scarce throughout much of Earth's history, but we found that it was in fact plentiful,"



A close up of the cyanobacteria producing oxygen.

Tanya Busak | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

said Konhauser.

The researchers say that during Earth's most severe periods of glaciation, which occurred 750 to 580 million years ago, the planet was encircled with thick ice sheets.

"The key ingredient to the eventual

oxidation of the oceans was found in the rubble of rock left behind when the glaciers receded," said Lalonde. "We believe the glacial debris that washed into the oceans contained high concentrations of phosphorus."

Phosphorus was essential to oxida-

tion of the oceans, says Lalonde, because it sparked the growth of cyanobacteria, or blue-green-algae.

"The byproduct of blue-green-algae's metabolic process is oxygen."

"We're not sure what the oxidation threshold level was," says Konhauser,

"but it finally reached a level favourable for animals to evolve."

"[Our research] shows that phosphorus levels peaking between 750 and 635 million years ago at the very same time that complex life forms emerged,"

Stefan Lalonde

Konhauser and Lalonde were co-authors on the paper published Oct. 27 in *Nature*. ■

2010 SSHRC research grants run the gamut of research topics

Isha Thompson

Researchers in the Faculty of Arts are receiving close to \$1.8 million from a national research grant agency to explore topics ranging from 19th-century erotic dancers to a 25-year study on youth-to-adult transitions.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, which supports

research excellence in the social sciences and humanities, awarded 20 arts faculty members with grants to help follow through with research initiatives that are a life's work.

"We started planning it in 1983 and got it off the ground in 1985, so this is the 25th anniversary study," said sociology professor Harvey Krahn, whose research began with the study of youth unemployment resulting from

the recession in the early '80s, and how it affected the research subjects' likelihood to succeed in their adult life.

Krahn has received \$110,206 from SSHRC to continue his research, which has evolved into a follow-up with the 1983 Edmonton high-school seniors involved in the original study. *Transitions To Adulthood: A 25 Year Follow-up of the Class of 1985*, will examine the long-term effects of unemployment, post-secondary education, transition into adult roles and mental health and family outcomes of individuals who are now in their mid- to late-40s.

Krahn has now teamed up with psychology professor Nancy Galambos, who has research interests in transitions to adulthood, including gender roles in adolescence and the pattern of psycho-social maturity during that period.

The grant will help Krahn and Galambos conduct a new round of surveys and, with the help of the Population Research Laboratory, track down their subjects, who they have not had contact with in 11 years. Krahn notes that the evolution of technology in the 25 years he has managed this research has given way to new techniques to communicate with research subjects.

"When we started, we were using paper and pencil questionnaires, and then we moved into the telephone

survey, and now web surveys and Facebook," said Krahn, adding that social media that will be heavily relied upon to track down the class of 1985.

Art and design assistant professor Amanda Boetzkes, on the other hand, will rely on traditional research techniques of visiting various libraries, galleries and exhibitions to conduct her research on *Waste, Contemporary Art and the Aesthetics of Excess*.

Boetzkes, who received \$61,983 from SSHRC to investigate the use and representation of human garbage in contemporary art, will travel to New York, Washington, D.C. and Vancouver, in order

to have access to the archived images that will help her unravel the growing trend of using garbage in various art forms. She argues that the appearance of durable garbage in art is "symptomatic of a drive to interrogate the current era of globalization through its patterns of consumption and waste."

"[Artists] are describing this new paradigm of this new materiality, which is a condition of the world, and also

"We started planning [the study] in 1983 and got it off the ground in 1985, so this is the 25th anniversary study."

Harvey Krahn

professor Cecily Devereux is also using her SSHRC grant to help analyze the work of artists. However, her focus is on performing artists in the late 19th century whose stories have been generally overlooked in history.

Empire's skin show: Erotic dance and the performance of white femininity, 1868-1908 will map the movement of erotic dancers through imperial space and evaluate the implications of this performance and how white femininity within the context of empire is understood.

"When you look through material from women writing about the British Empire in the 19th-century, you start to get a sense that there must be people missing, that there must be something that is not there, because there is remarkable sameness in the people that are writing that isn't indicative of what is going on in a particular space," says Devereux. She expects to find out how the history of these women may change the way we think about histories of women in Canada and influence the idea of gender and race.

The \$67,000 Devereux received from SSHRC will help to gather the necessary information and map the route of these women who travelled within the British Empire.

"Going and finding stuff is key to a project like this because the repository materials on women who dance are few and scattered," says Devereux. She will visit erotic dance collections in Ohio, New York, San Francisco and the Yukon. ■

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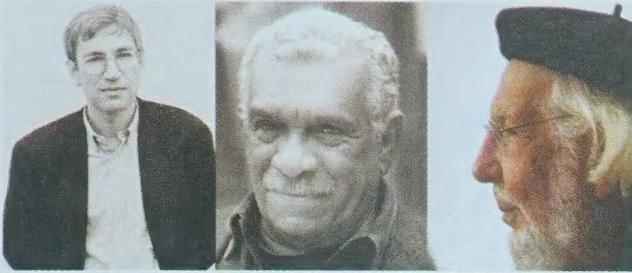


Festival
IDEAS

U of A's Festival of Ideas plays host to Nobel reunion of sorts

Michael Brown

Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk and fellow Nobel laureate Derek Walcott will be joined by Nobel Prize nominee and Nicaraguan poet Ernesto Cardenal for the Festival of Ideas 2010 signature



Orhan Pamuk, Derek Walcott and Ernesto Cardenal highlight the Festival of Ideas 2010.

event, Nobel Night in Canada.

This event is one of many special events taking place as part of the Festival of Ideas 2010, a celebration of thought and knowledge across disciplines that runs from Nov. 17 to 21 and features exceptional speakers, writers and performers, including David

Sedaris, Jared Diamond and Ayaan Hirsi Ali, all of whom will be in some way addressing this year's theme "Truth and Lies: Trust Me."

"It is not very often that one can see two laureates and one nominee on one stage," said Miki Andrejevic, executive director of the Festival of Ideas 2010. "This evening will play tribute to three giants of literature."

Pamuk is the author of eight novels, including *Snow*, *My Name Is Red*, and the memoir *Istanbul*. In awarding him with the 2006 Nobel Prize for Literature, the Swedish Academy praised Pamuk as one "who in the quest for the melancholic soul of his native city has discovered new symbols for the clash and interlacing of cultures."

Walcott, Distinguished Scholar in

Residence at the U of A, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992.

Originally from St. Lucia, Walcott has written more than 30 plays and 20 poetry collections during a career that started when he published his first poem at age 14. His writing, which melds a number of genres including mythology and folktales, is rooted in Caribbean post-colonial culture and includes such acclaimed works as *Omeros*, *In a Green Night* and *25 Poems*. He founded the Trinidad Theater Workshop in 1959, which produced many of his early plays, and the Boston Playwrights' Theatre at Boston University in 1981, where he was a faculty member until 2007.

Although Cardenal does not have a Nobel Prize to his name, this Roman

Catholic priest served as Nicaragua's Minister of Culture from 1979-1987 for the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which seized power in 1979 on a wave of socialist policies that included mass literacy. Cardenal is widely considered Central and South America's greatest living poet.

"Without readers, their books are meaningless, and without reader comments the authors can't learn more," said Andrejevic. "Of course, the other appeal is to communicate with each other as that is what good writers like to do."

Edward Bishop, a professor in the U of A's Department of English and Film Studies, will moderate the evening, which begins at 8 p.m. at the Citadel Theatre. ■

Play brings to life a violent and forgotten chapter in Canadian history

Geoff McMaster

Overshadowed by Louis Riel's North-West Rebellion, the Frog Lake Massacre of 1885 is now largely forgotten. It was a violent and revealing clash of cultures, erupting when a group of Plains Cree in what is now Alberta killed nine white men in response to mistreatment by the Canadian government. Chief Wandering Spirit and seven other Cree men were tried and put to death in the largest mass execution in Canadian history.



Vern Thiessen

Last year local writer Myrna Kostash published a book on the massacre called the *Frog Lake Reader*, a sweeping compendium of memoirs, journal entries, eye-witness accounts and interviews with historians in anticipation of the event's 125th anniversary. As it was perhaps meant to do, however, her research led to more questions than answers, crying out for a more imaginative treatment to fill in the gaps and silences that fall between the imperfect shards of memory.

The fictional path was not an easy

one for Kostash. Although she flirted briefly with playwriting some 25 years ago, she had built a successful career in non-fiction writing. In fact, just this week, Kostash won the Matt Cohen Award for lifetime achievement, a \$20,000 prize from the Writers' Trust of Canada.

"I'm committed to non-fiction," she says. "Even when it's creative non-fiction, I have a really hard time making things up. I'm not sure how people are going to feel about me taking liberties with characters in the historical record."

Seeing the dramatic potential in her material, however, she reached out to Vern Thiessen, the Governor General Award-winner and graduate of the U of A's now defunct playwriting master's of fine arts who has produced a string of international hits with such historically based plays as *Einstein's Gift*, *Shakespeare's Will*



Myrna Kostash

and *Lenin's Embalmers*. Kostash studied with him online, then took his two-week course in Tuscany, Italy.

"I saw Vern every day, and that really gave me a first draft," says Kostash, calling their working relationship a "real treat" born of mutual respect. "We don't pull any punches with each other, and he knows I can take it when he tells me, 'yuk' or 'don't even go there.' I told him I had real difficulty writing endless dialogue, with two characters who do nothing but sit around yacking all the time. He laughed and said, 'some of us call that theatre.'"

The result of that creative foray is *The Gallows is Also a Tree*, based on the relationship between the leader of the Frog Lake revolt, Wandering Spirit, and one of his captives, a

16-year-old girl. Set for a stage reading as part of Festival of Ideas, it is directed by Thiessen and performed by local actors David McNally, Ava Jane Markus, Liana Shannon and traditional drummer Rocky Morin from the Rocky Morin Cultural Society.

Kostash distills the play's plot—one of Thiessen's exercises—in a single sentence: "In a turbulent year, 1885, Cree war chief Wandering Spirit and his 16-year-old, mixed-blood hostage Eliza McLean, are thrown together in a vortex of violence, he to hang on the gallows, she to vanish from history."

But the play also explores "how we tell our stories, and who gets to tell 'History,' as opposed to history." Toward that end, Kostash has taken the liberty of creating a second, fictional

version of Eliza several decades older, which produces a tension, says Kostash, between the "young innocent, naïve, romantic and hopeful girl, and the wiser, intellectual woman."

"But it's really about me and the dialogue I've had inside my head dealing with these topics."

The Gallows is Also a Tree premieres Nov. 16 at 3 p.m., Stanley A. Milner Library. The dup will also discuss the playwriting process at a special Festival of Ideas preview in Calgary Nov. 12. ■

Kids' fest challenges young minds to seek truths

Athena Photinopoulos

The Kids' Festival of Ideas, hosted by University of Alberta staff and students, is a special event for young people ages five to 13 to engage in hands-on interactive fun while exploring the humanities and sciences. A wide variety of free activities, experiments and games from the areas of science, engineering, math, physical education, philosophy, museum studies and music will run concurrently from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Enterprise Square atrium on Nov. 20.

The kids' festival gently builds on this year's theme, "Truth and Lies: Trust Me," and encourages participation from young minds by providing them with opportunities to investigate, myth bust, and ask questions under the guidance of U of A outreach groups and volunteers.

Among the diverse groups hosting activities at this event, families can expect

to find Philosophy for Children. This organization provides early opportunities for kids to develop and employ critical thought and encourages them to question the world around them in a safe and fun environment. "Philosophy at this stage is not about reading dusty books; it's about ensuring that there is a place for children to explore the world, and to make sure that when it doesn't make sense, they ask questions," said John Simpson, program administrator for the group.

Philosophy for Children plans to host a story-telling activity that uses popular children's tales as "sneaky prompts" to have kids think about the world in which they live through the venue of the story. Simpson explains that when kids talk about a story as a group, they can't help but see the parallel to their own world, and this enables them to challenge the kind of group thinking and authority that is out there.

The U of A Museums will also be on

hand, toting many fascinating treasures, including mysterious Asian textiles, intriguing palaeontology, anthropology specimens and wild and wonderful plant specimens from around the world. Each piece will be accompanied by one true story and one fictitious story, and kids will have a chance to set their detective and research skills to work to uncover the truth.

"Seeing an artifact or specimen close-up provides a different learning experience than seeing a picture in a book. It is the hands-on experience that really makes kids' eyes light up," said Ellen Cunningham, exhibitions and outreach manager for the group.

Festivalgoers will be privy to a noon-time performance from the 20-piece Middle Eastern and North African Music Ensemble, courtesy of the U of A's Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology. For tickets or more information about this or any Festival of Ideas events, please visit www.festivalofideas.ca. ■

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Campus community continues to pay it forward

Angel Cousineau

When University of Alberta students fall on hard times, bursary assistance from University Bursaries and Emergency Funding is there to help pick them back up.

"This year has been exceptionally difficult financially," said a fourth-year U of A student who received a bursary from UBEF last year. "I cannot express enough how grateful I am to have received a bursary and be able to complete my final year of university."

When I worked with students, there were a few who fell on tough times just before Christmas."

Sheri Thompson

As a single parent going to college, Sheri Thompson, an administrative assistant in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, remembers the financial struggles she experienced as a student. And having worked at the university for the past 11 years, she's known firsthand that there are many students on campus who currently face similar difficulties.

"When I worked with students, there were a few who fell on tough times just before Christmas—that's how I learned about UBEF," says Thompson. "The bursaries they

received really helped them." The benefits of bursaries also hit home when her daughter received bursaries as a post-secondary student. The bursaries Thompson's daughter received were integral to her ability to complete her studies.

In 2007, Thompson found herself at a point in her life where she too could help students in need. Wanting to "pay it forward," Thompson signed up to have a monthly donation supporting U of A bursaries taken directly off her pay cheque. "I hope that this helps give them hope and reminds them to not give up," says Thompson.

While students are expected to have finances in place before they begin their academic year, unexpected situations or circumstances can derail their financial plans, leading to a financial emergency or shortfall, says Rachel de Leon, bur-

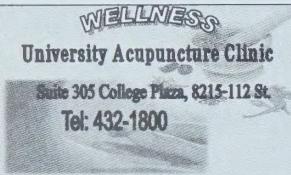
sary program co-ordinator with UBEF.

"Bursary assistance helps students meet their financial obligations in a timely manner, which allows students to fully focus on their academic studies instead of turning some or all of their focus to the unexpected financial issues they are facing while being a full-time student," says de Leon.

Student bursaries can be supported in two ways: by giving to the emergency bursary fund, which supports immediate or unexpected financial needs that jeopardize a student's ability to continue their education; or the U of A Bursary Fund, which assists in meeting the funding gap to ensure studies are not discontinued on account of financial disadvantages. Monthly payroll donations can be made online at www.giving.ualberta.ca or by calling 780-492-4948. ■



Sheri Thompson



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- 3) "In two months of treatment, Dr. He has helped alleviate pain from sciatica, disc bulges and inoperable spinal cysts." - Senior staff member at the U of A

ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH):

Input from the Community

Dr. Lorne Babiuk, Vice-President (Research), has advised President Indira Samarasekera that he would like to stand for a second term of office. In consultation with the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Brian Heidecker, President Samarasekera has asked that an Advisory Review Committee for Vice-President (Research) be struck.

UAPPOL policy provides that members of the university community have an opportunity to contribute to the review process. Individuals are welcome to express their views on the priorities of Vice-President (Research); including current issues, leadership, and the future direction of the Office of the Vice-President (Research). An anonymized summary of the feedback will be provided to Dr. Babiuk during the review process. President Samarasekera invites you to submit your comments and/or suggestions, in confidence, by 4:30 pm on December 10, 2010, to:

President Indira Samarasekera
c/o Jackie Wright, Secretary to the Advisory Review Committee
3-1 University Hall
University of Alberta, T6G 2J9
phone: (780) 492-9592
email: jackie.wright@ualberta.ca
fax: (780) 492-9265

Responsibility for the administration of the review process is housed in the Office of the President. Please note that the membership of the Advisory Review Committee will be confirmed by December 23, 2010, and posted on the President's website at www.president.ualberta.ca.

Bright eyes and bear pins return to pediatrics

Ken Mathewson

Vie Wynnyk's hand-crafted lapel pins might be the recognizable thing about her, but for those who know her, they're hardly the most memorable.

Make no mistake. Her ursine creations are certainly cute. Crafted out of shaggy pipe cleaners, and adorned in miniature medical attire, Wynnyk's creations are guaranteed to get a smile out of all but the most hard-hearted. However, if it's a smile you're after, it's obvious within a minute of meeting her that no ornaments are required.

Wynnyk possesses a contagious fervour and an inspiring outlook on her recent return to the pediatric department at the University of Alberta Hospital.

"You've got to be enthused about your work," said Wynnyk. "You've got to be inspired by where you are and what you do, and you've got to keep it interesting. Otherwise, you might as well go do something else."

That kind of enthusiasm might seem typical for a newcomer to the job. Wynnyk, however, has been working as a medical assistant at the U of A for more than 22 years. In 1994, after a three-year stint in pediatrics, she transferred to the gastro-intestinal department. Now, 16 years later, she is pleased to find herself back where she began.

"You find out quickly just how

skilled you are when you make those moves," she said. "After being away for so long, things in pediatrics have changed dramatically. We still have patient contact, and obviously we still deal with the parents, but it's much more administrative. The way things are organized is quite different."

The tasks and duties of her position may have changed over the years, but Wynnyk shows no signs of altering her approach to the job. Utilizing her artistic talents within her administrative

duties remains a passion for her, and one that she plans to continue pursuing.

"Wherever I'm working, I find myself incorporating my artwork. I'll spend my lunch hours designing new handouts and templates. My old boss is in gastro-intestinal—I used to decorate his medical slides. He's probably happy he can just get some regular ones done now," laughed Wynnyk.

"I actually started making bear pins in 1992, which started out as dough and pom-poms and evolved into cats, and then included the addition of bear pins made out of three pipe cleaners,

staff spotlight

which I think was about 2006-2007. Those are the ones I changed and made into medical bears. I think I ended up making one for everyone in my department. I had nurses asking for them; I had doctors from the Grey Nuns placing orders. In that year alone, I must have made more than 400 of them. I actually had a gentleman ask me to start a business with him selling the pins into the U.S."

Wynnyk declined his offer, much to the delight of her coworkers. "I explained to him that I had a full-time job, and that I just wouldn't be able to produce them in that capacity," she said.

"Besides, I'm very happy doing what I'm doing." ■



In her spare time, Vie Wynnyk creates lapel pins.

Preparing for NASA's November furlough

Folio Staff

Friday, Nov. 12 is the second furlough day for NASA staff; it is a regularly scheduled day of work for AASUA staff. The university will be open and operating at reduced levels of service on that day.

University administration urges you to consider how your faculty or unit plans to communicate the service levels available to students and clients.

This is a non-teaching day for most faculties. Faculties with classes run-

ning should ensure they consider any logistics related to building access and security.

Augustana will not be observing the furlough day on Nov. 12, and will be open with full service. NASA staff at Augustana will observe their furlough day on Oct. 22 and will operate at reduced levels of service on that day.

The following central units will offer service levels as follows:

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- University of Alberta Protective Services

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For additional information regarding service levels, please contact the appropriate faculty, department or service unit office. ■

Researchers call on feds to step into 'Northern mess'

Geoff McMaster

Canada's Arctic research community is concerned that the state of science in the North is in disarray. Researchers decry the lack of national polar policy, saying they are often poorly funded at a time when gathering climate-change data is more urgent than ever.

Last January John England, the University of Alberta's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Northern Research Chair, wrote an opinion piece in *Nature* pointing out that "the capacity to support researchers in remote field sites has plummeted, making it difficult for Canadian researchers to continue crucial monitoring of the fast-changing Arctic environment, from receding glaciers to disappearing polar-bear habitat."

The lack of support, he goes on to say, "leaves many Canadian scientists

feeling voiceless and chronically insecure about research support."

Biologist John Gamon, also of the U of A, agrees Canada is in desperate need of a coherent national policy on the North and argues that grassroots involvement should form a central part of that policy. He points to a small community in Alaska called Barrow, where people and science have "come together and interacted over many decades."

"Any scientist who wants to work there goes through an approval process that involves the local community," he says, adding that the community has also "set up an area on the edge of town for research that they help manage and protect for science... It's good for both."

Gamon has spent time researching the exchange of gases on the Alaskan tundra, trying to determine the region's future contribution to climate change. The central question is whether the tundra will operate as a carbon sink—

capturing and storing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and thus helping to slow global warming—or whether it will emit carbon dioxide through respiration.

It's uncertain at this point which side of the equation will win out, he says, though the balance depends largely on surface moisture. When moisture declines, "it acts as a kind of 'switch' that can easily turn the system from a carbon sink to a carbon source in a warming climate."

Monitoring such conditions is a huge undertaking, and Gamon currently has a plan to set up a pan-Arctic network of optical monitoring stations to "provide a window to an Arctic in transition." But he's convinced a key part of making such a system work, apart from funding support, is the direct involvement of local communities in the research. It worked for Barrow, a community consisting largely of Inupiat people, during a whaling ban in the

1970s.

"At that time, 'scientific' estimates of whale populations disagreed wildly from native estimates, which put the populations of bowhead whales at much higher levels than estimates by the population biologists. The local community teamed up with scientists to improve the counts, which led to much improved estimates of whale numbers, and based on those more accurate estimates, whaling was resumed."

Because of this history, it is now easier for scientists to conduct research not only in Barrow, but beyond: "The barriers to research elsewhere in the Arctic have been reduced through this history of cooperation between visiting scientists and locals that goes back many decades."

Gamon offered his perspective Oct. 25 as part of the Polar Impact Conversations Series. For more information, visit www.ualberta.ca/polar. ■

Eighteen Bridges connects Canada's cultural landscape with differing voices

Michael Davies-Venn

It pays homage to Edmonton, it serves as an unusual space in the nation's cultural landscape and contributes towards creating a more mature society. And with the debut of *Eighteen Bridges*—Canada's latest literary national magazine—the publication fills a void and helps connect Canada's cultural landscape.

"The United States has the *New Yorker* and the United Kingdom has *Granta*," one of *Eighteen Bridges'* founding editors, Curtis Gillespie, says. "The very foundation of these magazines is long-form narrative journalism, where they use all the hallmarks of great narratives—the withholding of tension, characterization, mood setting—they use all these classic elements of fiction and align them with great reporting and facts. This is indeed a rare combination in Canada."

The magazine, published by the University of Alberta's Canadian Literature Centre in the Faculty of Arts, is borne of a need beyond simply putting Canada in league with other nations with similar publications, say its editors, adding many Canadian writers lost a space to publish after the nation's first magazine closed its doors four years ago.

"*Saturday Night* magazine was in a way Canada's *New Yorker*; I was contributing editor to that magazine until it stopped publishing about four years ago," said Gillespie. "And *Eighteen Bridges* is filling that gap."

"There are so many great writers in Canada who really do not have an outlet; they have nowhere to publish the kind of works they are passionate about and that they used to publish in

"There are so many great writers in Canada who really do not have an outlet."

Curtis Gillespie

Saturday Night. And so much of the published works now in magazines are market driven as opposed to being writer driven. We really want this to be a writer-driven magazine."

Whereas the magazine fills a void left by an earlier publication, it takes its name from a faded historical fact about its birth city. Four years ago, when the idea of the magazine was conceived, Gillespie and co-editor, Lynn Coady, wanted a name for the publication that connects with the city without calling it *Edmonton* magazine.

"At the time, there were 18 bridges across the North Saskatchewan River," Gillespie said. "So we thought naming the magazine *Eighteen Bridges* was a nice little homage to the city of Edmonton without being too overt."

Since then, there have been more bridges built to connect communities in Edmonton and, much like how a bridge brings different places together, the diversity of the stories published in the first issue is matched only by the origins of their contributors. The current edition brought authors from across Canada, the U.K. and U.S.,

writing on a diverse collection of topics that range from the transformation of public spaces by street artists to questioning the arguments for genetic testing. But the diversity of its contributors and topics aside, *Eighteen Bridges*, Gillespie said, is a vitamin for Canada's cultural health.

"*Eighteen Bridges* allows us to pursue our mandate to bring different constituents together—the public, writers and researchers—that is what

we try to do at the centre," she said. "There has been a lot of talk about the place of the arts in society and the usefulness of the arts. With the first issue of the magazine, which concentrates on art and science, Carrière says *Eighteen Bridges* is making a connection that taps into something Canadians are thinking and talking about, not just the place but the usefulness and need of arts in society.

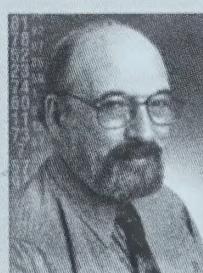
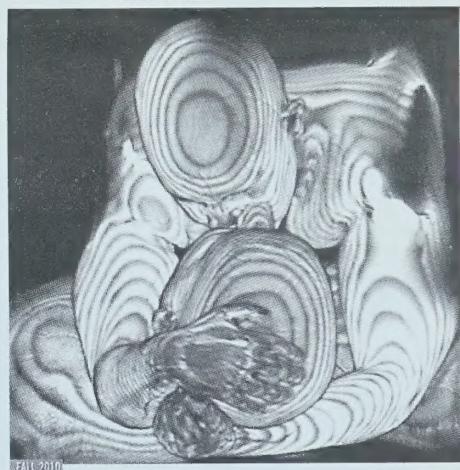
The second issue of the magazine, which promises from its tagline to connect people through stories, is due in January. That edition will take a close look at the place of pop culture in society. And much like the first edition that Gillespie says has been well received, based on the number of subscribers. He says the next edition will continue to reward its readers.

"*Eighteen Bridges* takes an investment of time on the part of the reader but they get insight and richness of content and entertainment that is enjoyable. That's the essence of narrative journalism: the ability to read pieces they would learn something from and enjoy, all at the same time.

"That's pretty rare." ■

**EIGHTEEN
BRIDGES**

Stories That Connect



Presenting:

Dr. David L. Streiner

"Why RCT's rarely yield the truth"

When: November 16, 2010 3:00 - 4:30pm

Where: Room 2-115, CSB University of Alberta

Dr. Streiner is the author of 15 books on a wide range of topics including Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Measurement Techniques in Health Care.

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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the research stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

Med/dent students collect clothes for underserved youth

Medical and dental students from the U of A will spend Nov. 7 collecting gently used winter clothing for the Youth Emergency Shelter Society.

The students specifically need donations of: gloves, socks, shoes, winter boots and winter coats appropriate for the youths, aged 15–19. Jeans, dress clothes, bus tickets, juice boxes and Christmas gifts will also be accepted.

The acting executive director of YESS, Sue Keating, said initiatives like this are critical to the services they provide for youth and the generosity of the students has a big impact.

"The kids we serve rarely come to us with adequate clothing for the weather, and we don't have any room in our budget to purchase winter wear, so a donation like this means an awful lot to us. It's always particularly meaningful, as well, when this kind of generosity comes from student groups—youth helping youth makes such an impact."

Medical and dental students from the Class of 2013 have chosen YESS as their charity of choice this year and have already planned numerous events for the remainder of the school year: a cookie dough fundraiser, cooking and serving meals in the kitchens at YESS, launching a mentorship program and hosting a water park fun night for YESS youth.

Grenvil Gracias, a second-year medical student, said the Class of 2013 chose YESS because they wanted to empower the youth, help a local organization and do more than just donate money.

"We wanted to reach out in a more direct way," said Gracias, the medical students' representative on the Gold Humanism Honours Society committee, made up of medical and dental students committed to humanitarian efforts. "We wanted to make a difference locally, to be mentors, to give these youth hope. We wanted to set an example as students and to be good role models."

Danielle Tingley, the dental students' representative on the committee, agrees. "As medical and dental students, we feel that it is important to develop a humanitarian spirit early in our professional careers. We are very excited to be a part of this effort to give back to the community."

For more information on how to donate, email Gracias at ggracias@ualberta.ca.

Ian Morrison inducted into Agriculture Hall of Fame

Ian Morrison, former dean of the then-Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, was inducted posthumously into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame earlier in October.

Morrison, who passed away in 2006, was a tireless steward of the land. His research accomplishments, as well as his administrative policies, were designed to help farmers reach profit goals and achieve goals leading to environmental sustainability.

His work on herbicide resistant weeds resulted in considerable savings in herbicide and application costs, and helped prevent an escalation of the weed resistance problem in Western Canada. As an educator, Morrison was considered a visionary and accomplished administrator, committed to training students to contribute to Alberta's agricultural communities.

Morrison's role in the advancement of Alberta and Western Canadian agriculture was immense and continues through those he mentored and influenced, in his various positions.

TLEF deadline approaching

The deadline for applications for the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund Projects or Research is Feb. 1, 2011. The terms of reference and application form can be found at www.provost.ualberta.ca/AwardsandFunding/tlef.aspx.

An information session is scheduled for Nov. 24 at 8:30 a.m. in the council chamber of University Hall. Topics will include applications, budgeting requirements, and the adjudication process.

When submitting applications, it is requested that deans provide a numerical ranking of how each project or research application aligns with the Faculty Academic Plan in relation to other applications submitted from the same faculty. In addition, the principal applicant requires a written appraisal from the appropriate chair, in departmentalized faculties, or the dean. Chairs or deans are asked to refer to the TLEF terms of reference for content to include in this letter.

Faculties may institute their own internal deadline to ensure there is enough time necessary to rank the applications. Please consult with your faculty office in reference to deadlines.

Applications may be sent by the principal applicant or by the relevant Office of the Dean to the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), 2-10 University Hall. Please refer to the handbook regarding submission requirements. If further assistance is required, please e-mail tlef@uhall.ualberta.ca.

Alberta EMBA places fourth in Canada

The prestigious *Financial Times of London* ranked the joint U of A/U of C Executive MBA (EMBA) program 48th globally, and fourth in Canada, in its international ranking of 100 EMBA programs released Oct. 25. The program outranked all Canadian schools in the "aims achieved" category, which measures the extent to which alumni fulfilled their goals or reasons for enrolling in an EMBA program. The joint Alberta/Haskayne Executive MBA program is offered in both Edmonton and Calgary with a stand-alone Edmonton cohort introduced in 2007.

Medicine TLEF to evaluate Discovery Learning

Ken Mathewson

When questioned about his teaching methods during his early career, Albert Einstein stated: "I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn."

Today, two physicians with the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry are preparing to put the effectiveness of that approach under the microscope.

Anna Oswald and Jennifer Walton recently received a grant from the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund in order to evaluate the interaction patterns, and subsequent effectiveness, of a dynamic teaching style, known within the academy as "discovery learning," which challenges students to define their own learning objectives in order to analyze various case studies.

"This method of problem-based learning is employed all over the world," said Oswald. "It's basically a method of teaching where the students work through clinical cases, in a group format,

by determining for themselves what they need to learn."

The classes, which consist of between 10 and 12 students, are guided by a facilitator, but the students are encouraged to rely as much as possible on one another, their ability to identify the information they're lacking and to develop their problem-solving skills by seeking out the answers they need.

"The goal is to create self-directed learners who are able to identify what they need to know, as well as how to go and get it," said Walton. "We are also trying to teach tutors how to lead these groups in a way that creates interaction between students, so we give them tools to help deflect the conversation away from them and to try to engage people who aren't terribly engaged."

Both doctors feel that this new method of teaching and learning will provide students with a

greater capacity to recognize the areas they need improvement in and develop comfort with not having all the answers.

"It's important to learn how to deal with the ambiguity and the uncertainty that comes along with being a physician," said Walton. "You need to be able to admit when you know things and when you don't. That's a skill that we're hoping to improve—student's tolerance with that ambiguity, their ability to recognize it within themselves and to amend it when it's appropriate."



(R-L) Anna Oswald and Jennifer Walton recently began collecting data on the interaction patterns of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's discovery learning program.

classified ads

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9929 SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE. Large executive living with the best view in Edmonton. Bdrms: 2, baths: 2, area: 2,351 sq. ft., includes utilities, for \$3,200/month. Commanding view of the river valley and City Centre! Executive living at its best! Many high quality upgrades. 2,351 sq. ft. of luxurious living space. Large windows bring the beauty of the river valley inside. Two spacious bdrms with stunning river views! Some hardwood floors, carpet. Finest facilities include indoor pool, party & games, exercise rooms. Close to downtown, Old Strathcona and university. A perfect choice for home owners who need lots of space but want to try out condominium living before they purchase. Parking also included. Call Janet today to see this prestigious condo. 780-441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate

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LENDRUM. 1,450 sq. ft., 3 bdrm bungalow. Finished basement, sunroom with wood stove, heated detached garage, landscaped yard. 2 blocks from U of A farm, Southgate. Directly across 2 schools, playgrounds. Appliances included. Phone 780-221-6023.

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RIVERBEND, SOUTHWEST CONDO. Good-sized, well-lit comfortable bdrm with private bathroom available downstairs for \$500/month. Close to a bus stop (#34). Two buses to the university would take approximately 1/2 hour, and 40 mins or less to downtown. Kitchen and laundry facilities available. Mature student or grad student. Two cats in the house. If interested, I would pay a tenant for doing housework. Please call Janet at 780-434-8801.

MCQUEEN AREA BUNGALOW. 4 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths, detached garage. Negotiable rent. Immediate Possession. sholden56@hotmail.com.

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storage room. Exercise and amenities room. On major bus route and close to LRT, walking trails, shopping, restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops & banks. No smoking/No pets. Available Dec 1st. \$1,600/month includes all utilities except phone & cable. Call 780-906-5746 or email notes4vivors@gmail.com to view.

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NOTICES

SHOW YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT AND RECEIVE \$5. ADARA HAIR AND BODY STUDIO has teamed up with the Edmonton Food Bank and Santa's Anonymous to help fellow Edmontonians this Christmas season. Drop off an unwrapped gift from Nov 1 to Dec 31, and receive a \$5 coupon for services at Adara Hair and Body Studio. *Coupon to be used on services between Jan. 1 – Feb 28, 2011. ADARA HAIR AND BODY STUDIO, 9601-82 Ave., Edmonton. Also visit: adairhair.com, santasanonymous.ca, edmontonfoodbank.com.

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until Nov. 9

Mini Medical School. Running every Tuesday for eight weeks, the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry is presenting this lecture series on topics from dentistry and surgery to nutrition and acupuncture. 7-9 p.m. Bernard Snell Hall. Go to www.cpl.ualberta.ca for more information.

Until Nov. 20

Polar Impact is an exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Circumpolar Institute. It looks at the changes in the polar and sub-polar regions of the world and it highlights aspects of some of the research carried out by University of Alberta faculty in these unique and sensitive environments. The exhibit is open Thursdays 12-8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday 12-5 p.m. Gallery A in the TELUS Centre (87 Ave. and 111 St.). Admission is free. Gallery A TELUS Centre.

Until Nov. 30

United Way Coats for Kids Alumni Affairs Collection. If you have a gently used coat that you would like to donate, contact Alumni Affairs at 492-7726. Any size, any style are needed.

Until Jan. 14, 2011

The John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Collection. This exhibition presents examples of first editions of all the titles that have won Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction from its inception to the present. Noon-4:30 p.m. Rutherford Library.

Nov. 5

Office of the Registrar Pie in the Face Day. Donate \$2 to have a pie put in the face of a fellow colleague. That colleague has four choices: Pay \$2 to have it sent back to the person who sent it to them, pay \$5 to send it to someone new. Pay \$10 to get out of the game all together. All proceeds to the campus United Way Campaign. Administration. www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/unitedway.

Nov. 6

Golden Bears and Panda's Basketball. Vs UBC Thunderbirds, 6 p.m. Main Gym. For full schedule of A of A Athletics, go to www.bears.ualberta.ca.

Nov. 8 & 9

Gently Used Clothing and Accessories Sale. Good quality, clean clothing for sale in support of the United Way from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Main Floor, Education South Education Centre, North & South

laurels

Mark Fenton, a long-time adjunct professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and sessional instructor with the Faculty of Extension, has received the prestigious Provincial Geologists Medal to recognize his major contributions in geoscience. This is the first time this award has been given to an Alberta geologist.

Cyril Kay, professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Finlay McAlister, professor in the Department of Medicine, and Glen Baker, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, have all been elected as a fellows of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.

Nov. 8

It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle: Forcing DNA molecules to move through a nanopore. Gary W. Slater, of the Department of Physics at the University of Ottawa, presents. 10-11 a.m., 2016 Natural Resources Engineering Facility.

CUS Seminar Series.

"Declassifying of the documents of the Security Service of Ukraine." Presented in Ukrainian by Volodymyr Viatrovych, director of the Centre for Research on the [Ukrainian National] Liberation Movement, Lviv, Ukraine. 3 p.m. 206 Pembina Hall.

Nov. 8-12

50ème anniversaire du Canadian Circumpolar Institute. As part of the CCI 50th anniversary an exhibit will be presented at Campus Saint-Jean from Nov. 8-12. This exhibit will show, among others, the work of Captain J.E. Bernier, the francophone explorer who helped define the Canadian borders in the Arctic. On Nov. 10, presentations by Marianne Douglas, Michelle Daveluy and Gilles Cadri will take place in the Grand Salon. 1:15 p.m.

Nov. 9

"On Film, Theory & 'Film as Philosophy': Or, Philosophy Goes 'Pop.' Todd Dufresne, director of the Advanced Institute for Globalization & Culture and Research Chair of Social and Cultural Theory at Lakehead University, will be on hand for this talk. 3:30-5 p.m. HC L-3 Humanities Centre.

Targeting Metabolism: A New Approach for Treating Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease. Join Evangelos Michelakis, MD, professor and vice-chair of research in the Department of Medicine, as he discusses early results of Dichloroacetate research. RSVP to calgary.ualberta.ca or 403-718-6375 4:30-6:30 p.m. <http://www.calgary.ualberta.ca>.

Linda Duncan On Federal Energy Policies & Water-Energy Nexus. Duncan, former member of the recently disbanded Standing Committee on Environmental and Sustainable Development, which recently held a two-year consultation process to review the impact of oilsands development on water resources. Duncan will release her own summary of findings and recommendations based on her experience on the committee. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Nov. 10

2010 Foote Lecture in International Business. Playing it Right in Greater China: Navigating Asia's New Business Landscape. What are the implications of the recent and dramatically altered business and economic working conditions

for both domestic and foreign players in greater China? Come hear U of A alumna Katherine Tsang take up this question at the 2010 Foote Lecture in International Business. 4-5 p.m. TL-12 Tory Lecture Theatres.

Nov. 13

Think Healthy, Be Well: Managing Diabetes Today Symposium. Geared towards those with diabetes, their families, friends, colleagues and others interested in learning more about the disease. Featured opening address and two keynote speakers. Select from 12 sessions, each led by a respected researcher/practitioner. Complimentary lunch included. "Meet the Presenter" coffee breaks and an intimate tradeshow. 8-3 p.m. <http://www.afdr.ab.ca/diabetes-symposium>.

Nov. 15

U of A GIS Day 2010. All U of A students, staff and faculty are invited to U of A's free event to explore and share education and research in Geographic Information Systems. Registration is required at www.ualberta.ca/~gis. 2:30-5 p.m., M145 Biological Sciences.

Celebration of Service. The 2010 Celebration of Service will recognize all U of A faculty and staff members who have 45 (1965), 40 (1970), 35 (1975), 30 (1980) and 25 (1985) years of service. 3:10-6 p.m., Myer Horowitz Theatre.

Nov. 16

Commercial Combined Heat & Power. The U of A has a combined heat and power system, why doesn't the rest of Alberta use this technology? Dan Cloutier, president of Power EcoSystems, will discuss how his company installs economically viable and energy efficient combined heat and power systems. 5:30 p.m. 2-009 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC).

Nov. 17

Chillin for Charity. Come out and be part of the 5th Annual JDC West Chillin for Charity. The water will be cool but it is all for a good cause. All proceeds raised will be donated to the campus United Way Campaign. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Quad. www.jdcwest.com.

Nov. 17 & 18

Fall Convocation. Fall Convocation ceremony for the faculties of arts; engineering; agricultural, life and environmental sciences; business; nursing; native studies; Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana Campus. Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

Honorary degree recipients

Nov. 17
3 p.m., Donald Ethell, former lieutenant governor of Alberta
Nov. 18
10 a.m., Yvonne Shi-Wan Chiu, U of A alum and champion of immigrant and refugee rights
3 p.m., Kim Campbell, former prime minister of Canada

Nov. 19

Eric Geddes Breakfast Lecture. The Alberta School of Business and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta invite you to attend the Eric Geddes Breakfast Lecture featuring Simon Farbrotter, Edmonton's city manager. Topic: "Transforming Edmonton: One Organization's Experience of Taking on the Challenge." 7-8:30 a.m.

Pain revisited: merging science & practice. This symposium will include presentations from the Canadian Pain Society Annual Conference 2010. The symposium will revisit pain management from a wide range of perspectives; children with pain

Lady in waiting



(From L-R) Studio Theatre's Kyla Shinkewski, Giana Vacirca, Ben Dextreze and Chad Drever act out a scene from Brad Fraser's brutally dark and razor-sharp "Love and Human Remains," running Nov. 4-13 at the Timms Centre for the Arts. Tickets are on sale now at TIX on the Square and online at www.tixonthesquare.ca, as well as in person at the Timms box office.

and their parents, persons with whiplash injury, adults living with chronic enduring pain and older adults with dementia. This symposium is part of National Pain Awareness Week. Noon-5 p.m. 2-39 Corbett Hall.

"Incentives in the Family Firm."

Animal family life has been seen as a cauldron of conflict, characterized by parent-offspring competition. In this lecture, distinguished Stanford biologist Joan Roughgarden presents a harmonious interpretation of family life, based on cooperative game theory from the economics of industrial organization. 327 Earth Sciences.

China Institute Movie Screening: "Kung Fu Hustle."

"Kung Fu Hustle," directed by and starring Stephen Chow, is a delightful blend of comedy and martial arts, aided by computer-generated effects alternately gorgeous and ridiculous. It is also the top-grossing Hong Kong film of all time. Join us for a screening of this madcap miscellany, to be introduced by Daniel Fried, of the Department of East Asian Studies. 7:30 p.m. TELUS Centre.

Gateway Centennial Pub Night @ Dewey's.

The Gateway is celebrating 100 years! Please join current Gateway staff and other Gateway alumni at a fun night out at Dewey's on campus for a private event. 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 20

Gateway Centenary Celebration Dinner. The Gateway is 100 years old and is celebrating this momentous occasion with a Centennial Gala Dinner and an evening program featuring a keynote address from the former Alberta premier Peter Lougheed. 5 p.m., Aberhart Centre. www.ualberta.ca/alumni/gateway.

Nov. 21

World Music Sampler. 2 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.



A

'THRILLER'

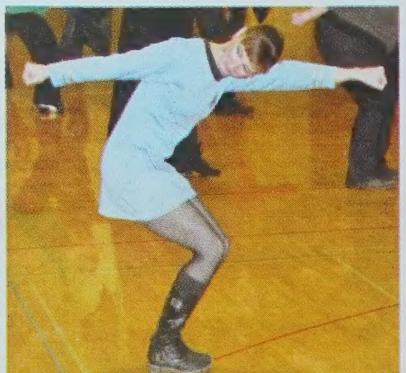
OF A UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER



Photos by Michael Brown

The spirit of Michael Jackson was alive and well in the Main Gym of Van Vliet Centre on Oct. 29 as more than 100 participants shuffled, stomped and strutted their way through a lunch-hour

workout to the popular Michael Jackson tune "Thriller." A team of dancers led the zombie-wannabes through the choreographed moves from Jackson's 1983 hit video. The event was organized as a fund-raiser for the campus' United Way campaign.



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